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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT**22 JANUARY 2018**

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Ohio – Man Accused of Plotting US Attacks to be Sentenced**

(U) Columbus – A man who admitted he plotted to kill military members in the US after receiving training in Syria is again set to be sentenced after a short delay. Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud is scheduled to appear in federal court in Columbus today. Court documents unsealed last year show Mohamud pleaded guilty more than two years ago to terrorism charges. Government prosecutors want a judge to impose a 23-year sentence. They say Mohamud tried to cover up dangerous terrorist activity. SOURCE: 21 January 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Virginia – Two Teens Arrested in School Bomb Threats

(U) Alexandria – Two teenagers have been arrested relating to bomb threats that were made targeting Alexandria City Public Schools last week. A 13-year-old male was charged with threats to bomb Francis C. Hammond Middle School. Police said the threat was made on social media and led to the school being evacuated. Crews searched the building. A 13-year-old female was charged with threats to bomb George Washington Middle School. This threat was also posted on social media.

SOURCE: 19 January 2018, [WUSA9](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – 18 Killed After 13-Hour Siege at Luxury Hotel**

(U) Kabul – At least 14 foreigners and four Afghans were killed after gunmen stormed the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul on Saturday, a spokesman for the Afghan Interior Ministry said. The attack set off a 13-hour gun battle with security forces in an overnight siege, as frantic guests tried to escape from fourth and fifth-floor windows. Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said that 11 of the 14 foreigners killed were employees of KamAir, a private Afghan airline. The Intercontinental Hotel is located on a hilltop in the Bagh-e Bala area of the capital and is heavily guarded because it hosts both Afghan and foreign guests as well as official conferences.

SOURCE: 21 January 2018, [NBC News](#)

(U) India – Authorities Capture Most-Wanted Terrorist

(U) New Delhi – Police in New Delhi say they have captured a man who came to be known as "India's Bin Laden" for allegedly masterminding a series of deadly bombings across India over the past decade. Indian authorities say that Abdul Subhan Qureshi planned bomb blasts that ripped through the western state of Gujarat in 2008, killing 56 people. He is also believed to have founded the militant group Indian Mujahideen and to have been behind deadly bombings in Mumbai in 2006, Delhi in 2010 and Bangalore in 2014. Qureshi, 46, also known as "Tauqeer," worked as a software engineer before becoming radicalized.

SOURCE: 20 January 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Nigeria – Abducted Americans and Canadians Freed

(U) Yola – Two Americans and two Canadians who were kidnapped in the north-central state of Kaduna,

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are said to be in good condition. Police and a special anti-kidnapping squad rescued the foreigners in the Kagarko area last Friday night after a massive manhunt. One suspect was arrested relating to the kidnapping and police were on the trail of remaining suspects. Gunmen ambushed the foreigners last week as they traveled from Kafanchan in Kaduna state to Abuja. The Americans and Canadians have not been publicly identified.

SOURCE: 20 January 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Tunisia – Al-Qa’ida Leader Killed by Special Forces

(U) Tunis – A local leader of al-Qa’ida Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) was killed yesterday during an operation by Tunisian special forces. Bilel Kobi, the top aide to Abu Musab Abdul Wadud, was killed in an ambush near the Algerian border when he was on a mission to reorganize AQIM’s local branch. Tunisia has been on high alert since 2015 when militants killed dozens of tourists. ISIS claims most major attacks in Tunisia including a hotel attack and an attack on a museum that killed dozens of tourists in 2015 as well as raids by militants who crossed from Libya into Tunisia in 2016.

SOURCE: 21 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Texas – 35 Undocumented Immigrants Inside Tractor Trailer**

(U) Laredo – Border Patrol agents with the Laredo Sector foiled an alleged illegal smuggling attempt at the I-35 checkpoint. According to Border Patrol officials the incident happened on 17 January when agents encountered a tractor-trailer at the I-35 checkpoint. When agents searched the tractor trailer, they found 35 undocumented immigrants who were determined to be from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Ecuador. The driver was arrested and turned over to DHS.

SOURCE: 19 January 2018, [KGNS](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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